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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	A. Arning et al.	Examiner:	Leslie Wong
Serial No.:	09/747,515	Group Art Unit:	2167
Filed:	December 21, 2000	Docket No.:	STL000011US2
TITLE:	USING AN INDEX TO ACCESS A SUBJECT MULTI-DIMENSIONAL DATABASE		

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted by facsimile to Leslie Wong of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office at 703-872-9306 on February 8, 2005

  
Janaki K. Davda

Statement of the Substance of the Interview

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Examiner:

Applicants would like to thank Examiner Wong for holding a telephone interview with their representative, Janaki K. Davda, on January 14, 2005. During the telephone interview, claims 55, 73, and 75 were discussed with reference to the cited art (Chen, Information Builder, and Agrawal, as appropriate).

Applicants would like to clarify the discussion that occurred during the telephone interview.

With reference to claim 55, Applicants' representative indicated that the claimed subject matter receives an indication of a feature identification technique and performs feature identification to identify the indicated number of features using the indicated feature identification technique. Thus, any one of many feature identification techniques may be used with Applicants' claimed invention. This is not taught or suggested by the cited prior art.

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Applicants' representative also discussed that the invention receives parameters, including a scope parameter that is used to collect information about which member or members of each dimension are to be used for a deviation search and a member(s) parameter that is used to collect information on which feature or features are to be mined (e.g., Specification, page 12, lines 10-28). An example is provided starting on page 13, line 12 of the Specification. The feature identification software may use any technique that can identify specific points or regions of interest in a multi-dimensional database, and the result is an ordered list of multi-dimensional points (e.g., Specification, page 13, line 29-page 14, line 2). The index systems uses the ordered list of points to build a multi-dimensional database that serves as an index of the points of interest in the subject multi-dimensional database (e.g., Specification, page 15, lines 12-13).

Dated: February 8, 2005

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